

RECOMMENDATION

No further research is recommended in connection with the current proposal.

National Register eligibility

The prehistoric component lacks integrity and is therefore ineligible for the National Register. The historic component lacks significance and is not eligible. The project as proposed thus will have no effect on significant archaeological resources. Any remains that might be destroyed are unlikely to be of further value in increasing our knowledge of the area's history or prehistory.

Specific determination of effect

At the time of this survey, only one proposed alignment was known; this alignment is shown for reference purposes only on the site plans, figures 8 and 10. Other nearby alignments that might be selected may cut the knoll at different places, but in any case have similar effect.

Recommendations for future research

These conclusions are applicable only to the alignment currently proposed and similar nearby alignments. There are in the vicinity certain resources that are potentially significant, but outside the scope of the present study.

If the Department of Transportation should propose to locate Saulsbury Road farther to the east, nearer duPont Station, cultural implications may be different. The duPont Station locality lies at the confluence of Mudstone and Fork branches, a place with high likelihood of yielding prehistoric remains. Along Denny's Road near the Fork Branch bridge lie the remains of a nineteenth-century settlement of blacks. Fork Branch schoolhouse, church, cemeteries, and house sites are known and certainly warrant investigation. The black settlement at Fork Branch appears in the 1868 atlas map, figure 6, and is known from the land records to have existed before that time. Free black landowners appear as adjoiners to the subject property in land records before the Civil War.